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Date: OCTOBER 26, 2004

To: EXAMINER KANG, D.  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Fax #: (703) 827-9318

From: FRANK C. NICHOLAS  
Phone #: (847) 424-2521

Client/Matter No.: CML00635AT (9645/122)

# of Pages: 13  
(including cover sheet)

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# TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Attorney Docket No.	CME-0063SAT (9645/122)
Application Number	10/611,546
Filing Date	JULY 1, 2003
First Named Inventor	TIMOTHY B. DEAN
Group Art Unit	2811
Examiner	KANG, D

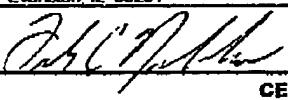
## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Non Final Office Action Dated July 26, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawings:	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Post Card Receipt
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## CALCULATION OF FEE

Claims After Amendment	Highcat No Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Large Entity	
			Rate	Add'l Fee	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total	Minus	0	x \$9=	0	x \$18=	
Indep	Minus	0	x \$44=	0	x \$88=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim			+\$150=	—	+\$300=	
			total add'l fee	\$ 0	total add'l fee	\$ 0

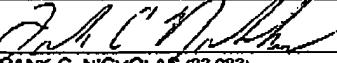
## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	FRANK C. NICHOLAS Registration No. 33,983 CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201
Signature	
Date	October 26, 2004

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Attorney Docket No.	CML0063SAT (9645722)
Application Number	10/611,546
Filing Date	JULY 1, 2003
First Named Inventor	TIMOTHY B. DEAN
Group Art Unit	2811
Examiner	KANG, D

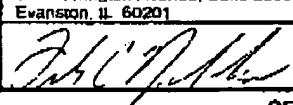
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Indep		Minus		0	x \$9=	0
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					x \$44=	0
					+\$150=	—
					total add'l fee	\$ 0
					or	
					Rate	Add'l Fee'
					x \$18=	
					x \$88=	
					+\$300=	
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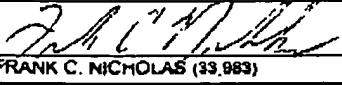
## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	FRANK C. NICHOLAS Registration No. 33,883 CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201
Signature	
	Date <u>October 26, 2004</u>

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FRANK C. NICHOLAS (33 983)  
Name of applicant, assignee or registered representative

Frank C. Nicholas  
Signature

October 26, 2004  
Date of Signature

PATENT  
Case No.: CML00635AT  
(9645/122)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:	)	
TIMOTHY B. DEAN, ET AL.	)	Examiner: Kang, D.
Serial No.: 10/611,546	)	Group Art Unit: 2811
Filed: JULY 1, 2003	)	
Title: ACTIVATION PLATE FOR	)	
ELECTROLESS AND IMMERSION	)	
PLATING OF INTEGRATED CIRCUITS	)	

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 26, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22202-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to a Non-Final Office Action dated July 26, 2004, the Applicants respond as follows:

October 25, 2004  
Case No.: CML00635AT (9645/122)  
Serial No.: 10/611,546  
Filed: July 1, 2003  
Page 2 of 10

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

The present amendment replies to an Office Action dated July 26, 2004. Claims 1-25 are currently pending in the present application. Examiner Kang rejected claims 17-25.

In the Office Action, Examiner Kang asserted the following actions to pending claims 17-25:

- A. Claims 17-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement
- B. Claims 17-23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Ling et al (US 2002/0096765)
- C. Claims 17 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takase et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,028,011)

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination of the present application under 37 CFR § 1.112.